



Agricultural Report

Connecticut Department of Agriculture

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor; Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner
Robert R. Pellegrino, Bureau Director



Marketing & Technology Bureau, (860) 713-2503

Linda Piotrowicz, Interim Editor
Wednesday, October 12, 2011

NOTES from the DEPARTMENT . . .

GAP/GHP THIRD-PARTY AUDIT PROGRAM

By Mark Zotti, Marketing Representative

In 2011, three farms and one wholesaler successfully passed USDA Good Agricultural Practices/Good Handling Practices (GAP/GHP) third-party food-safety audits in Connecticut.

For those unfamiliar with GAP/GHP, it is a voluntary, audit-based program that verifies adherence to the recommendations made in the Food and Drug Administration's [Guide to Minimize Microbial Food Safety Hazards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables](#). This program is not mandated by any government agency, but may be required by certain institutions, wholesalers, and retail operations. Depending on the requester, different GAP/GHP food-safety audits are available through different third-party auditing firms, including but not limited to USDA, Primus, Safe Quality Food Institute, and more. Audits are done by request on an annual basis. Through a federal-state agreement with the USDA, the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DoAG) offers USDA GAP/GHP audits to requesting farmers.

Many Connecticut farmers who sell to wholesale distribution centers have heard rumors about GAP/GHP for a number of years but many did not really understand what it was or where to start to implement such a program. To address this, DoAG worked with University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension to develop the educational component of GAP/GHP. Together the two agencies developed an outline of what needs to be covered and the best methods for Connecticut farmers to incorporate a GAP/GHP program. The finished product was a series of comprehensive classroom meetings called GAP School.

GAP School was offered over the winter of 2010-2011 and had a total of 48 participants. These meetings provided fruit and vegetable growers with the tools they need to develop a GAP/GHP food-safety program for their farm. Participation reasons varied from learning how to prepare for an audit to learning best practices to prevent microbial contamination of product. By the end of GAP School, all participants were provided with the information necessary to write their own food-safety manual and modify their current practices to pass a GAP/GHP audit. All participating farms that opted to be audited successfully passed the USDA GAP/GHP audit. Plans are currently being made for a refresher course as well as additional GAP/GHP training for the winter of 2011-2012.

In addition to designing the education component and providing the auditing service, DoAG also has recognized that a GAP/GHP program brings about an added expense for Connecticut farmers. Fees vary depending on the type of audit and the organization performing the audit. DoAG's GAP/GHP Cost Share Grant, using USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant funds, will reimburse farmers who have successfully passed an accredited third-party food safety audit. The reimbursement is for 75% for the cost of an audit, up to \$500.

In the past 10 years, there have been many changes to food-safety programs and changes will continue. Voluntary programs like GAP/GHP educate producers and farm workers about the best practices to prevent microbial contamination while complying with customer demands. DoAG has and will continue to make it a top priority to keep Connecticut farmers competitive through education and by offering the necessary food safety programs in 2012 and beyond.

For information about GAP/GHP training and education, contact Candace.Bartholomew@uconn.edu or Diane.Hirsch@uconn.edu.

For information about DoAG's GAP/GHP Cost Share Grant, contact Richard.Macsuga@ct.gov.

For information about USDA GAP/GHP audits, contact Mark.Zotti@ct.gov.

For more information about DoAG and its programs and services, please visit www.CTGrown.gov.

AG VIABILITY GRANT APPLICATIONS DUE NOV 10

The Connecticut Department of Agriculture invites eligible farmers, municipalities, and agricultural nonprofits to apply for its Agriculture Viability Grants, which have been funded again this year. These grants strengthen the economic viability of Connecticut farmers and promote the sustainability of agriculture in Connecticut and its municipalities. Matching, competitive grants of up to \$49,999 will be awarded.

Applications must be postmarked by November 10 or delivered to the department's office by 4:00 p.m. that day. (November 11, the deadline printed on the application, is a state/federal holiday.) Applications are available at www.CTGrown.gov. Contact Ron Olsen at Ronald.olsen@ct.gov or 860-713-2550 for more information.

**WHOLESALE FRUITS
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
APPLE,Cort,12/3,xfcy	21.00	21.00
APPLE,Gala,8/5lb	24.00	24.00
APPLE, Gala,bu,2-1/2up	20.00	22.00
APPLE,Hnycrsp,xfcy,64ct	55.00	55.00
APPLE, Hnycrsp,bu	38.00	38.00
APPLE,Mac,xfcy,100ct	25.00	26.00
APPLE, Mac,bu,2-1/2up	17.00	18.00
APPLE,Macn,100ct,xfcy	35.00	35.00
APPLE, Macn,bu,2-1/2	26.00	26.00
APPLE,Spnser,bu	25.00	25.00
CIDER,4/1gal	16.00	16.00
GRAPE,Concord,8/1qt	25.00	25.00
PEAR,Anjou,4/5 bu,red	26.00	26.00
PEAR,Bosc,4/5bu	24.00	25.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION
October 10, 2011**

Hogs sold by actual weights, prices quoted by hundred weight.

49-54	220-270 lbs	72.00-76.00
	270-300lbs	69.00-73.00
	300-350lbs	68.00-73.00
45-49	220-270lbs	68.00-71.00
Sows: US 1-3	300-500 lbs	56.00-59.00
	500-700 lbs	59.00-63.00
Boars:	300-700 lbs	32.00-34.00

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION
Middlefield, October 10, 2011**

Live animals brought the following ave. prices per cwt.

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	25.00	30.00
61-75 lbs.	35.00	40.00
76-90 lbs.	45.00	50.00
91-105 lbs.	55.00	57.50
106 lbs. & up	60.00	65.00
Farm Calves	67.50	81.00
Veal Calves	70.00	120.00
Open Heifers	65.00	147.50
Feeder Steers	63.00	95.00
Starter Calves	24.00	28.00
Stock Bulls	87.00	115.00
Lambs each	120.00	270.00
Goats each	65.00	180.00
Kid Goats each	47.50	150.00
Canners	up to	59.75
Cutters	60.00	64.00
Utility Grade Cows	65.00	75.00
Rabbits each	6.00	17.00
Chickens each	5.00	18.00
Ducks each	10.00	25.00
Sheep	95.00	285.00

**WHOLESALE VEGETABLES
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	Low	High
BEAN,Green ,bu	24.00	26.00
BROCCOLI,14ct	14.00	15.00
CABBAGE,Green,50lb,box	10.00	12.00
CABBAGE,Red,50lb,box	14.00	16.00
CABBAGE,Savoy,1-1/9bu	14.00	16.00
COLLARDS,12-16s	12.00	12.00
CORN,5dz	14.00	16.00
CORN,Ornmntl,1/2bu,20/3s	32.00	35.00
CORN,Stalks,bndl	4.00	5.00
CRANBERRIES, 24-12 oz	36.00	36.00
CUCUMBERS,bu	20.00	22.00
CUCUMBERS,pick,bu	35.00	40.00
EGGPLANT,1-1/9bu	18.00	20.00
GOURDS,Ornmntl,1/2bu	18.00	20.00
GOURDS,Shlckd,1/2bu	26.00	27.00
KALE,crtn,bnchd	12.00	12.00
OKRA,1/2bu	20.00	22.00
PARSNIP,25lb	24.00	24.00
PEPPER,Bell,1-1/9bu,Sntn,lg	9.00	10.00
PEPPER,Bell,1-1/9bu,xl	12.00	14.00
PEPPER,Jalapeno,1/2bu	16.00	16.00
POTATOES,Russet,40ct,	16.00	18.00
POTATOES,Rnd,wh,10lb,A	2.75	2.75
POTATOES,Chef,yel,50lb	21.00	24.00
PUMPKIN,36,Howden,bin	140.00	165.00
PUMPKIN,36,Pie,bin	280.00	300.00
PUMPKIN,24,Pie,bin	180.00	200.00
SQUASH,Acrn1-1/9bu,sm/md	12.00	14.00
SQUASH,Buttrnt,1-1/9bu,sm/md	12.00	13.00
SQUASH,Grn,1/2bu,sm/md	16.00	18.00
SQUASH,Yel,1/2bu	20.00	22.00
TOMATOES,Cherry,2/10oz	26.00	28.00
TOMATOES,Cherry,5lb	14.00	14.00

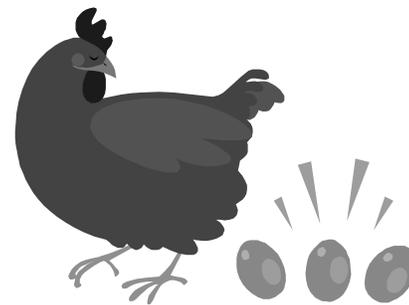
(Boston Terminal and wholesale grower prices)

NEW HOLLAND LIVESTOCK AUCTION

Monday, October 10, 2011

Bulk/ High/ Low Dressing

SLAUGHTER COWS:	
Breakers 75-80%lean	63.00-67.00---67.50-71.50---68.00-70.00
Boners 80-85% lean	61.00-65.00---66.00-67.00---57.50-60.00
Lean 80-90% lean	53.00-57.00---58.00-62.50---48.00-52.00
SLAUGHTER BULLS: Yield Grade 1	1200-2195 lbs 74.00-79.00
	1510-1700 lbs NA
CALVES: All prices per cwt.	
Holstein Bull Calves: Number 1	98-118 lbs 149.00-160.00
Holstein Heifers: Number 1	85-100 lbs 100.00---150.00
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: Non-Traditional Markets:	
Wooled & Shorn Choice and Prime 2-3	60-80 lbs 216.00-230.00
	80-90 lbs 207.00.00-226.00
	90-110 lbs 207.00-222.00
	110-130 lbs 204.00-219.00
	130-150 lbs 194.00-208.00
	150-200 lbs 188.00-205.00



**WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND
SHELL EGGS**

Prices paid per dozen. Grade A brown egg in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	186-193
LARGE	183-193
MEDIUM	126-133

**NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA
October 7, 2011**

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, white eggs in cartons, warehouse, centers per dozen. (Range)

EXTRA LARGE	116-134
LARGE	110-124
MEDIUM	97-110

VIRGINIA WEEKLY HAY REPORT

October 6, 2011

Hay market for Harrisonburg, VA. All hay prices paid by dealers at the farm and per ton.

Mixed Grass	sm. round, <1,000lbs
Good	20.00 per bale
Timothy/Orchard	lg. round, >1,000lb
Good	30.00 per bale
Orchard Grass	sm. square, 35-45lbs
Premium	2.40 per bale
Good	1 st cutting

Wooled & Shorn Choice 2-3

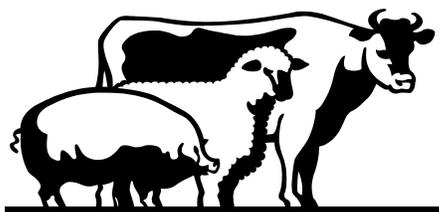
50-60 lbs	200.00-216.00
60-80 lbs	190.00-210.00
80-90 lbs	194.00-200.00
90-110 lbs	192.00-200.00
110-130 lbs	190.00-202.00

SLAUGHTER EWES: Good 2-3: Med. Flesh

120-160 lbs	105.00-120.00
160-200 lbs	94.00-100.00
200-300lbs	84.00-98.00
Utility 1-2: Thin Flesh	120-160 lbs 81.00-96.00
	160-200 lbs 80.00-94.00

SLAUGHTER GOATS: All goats are Selection 1, sold by the head, on est. weights.

Kids:	
40-60lbs	106.00-133.00
60-80lbs	126.00-147.00
80-90lbs	146.00-161.00
90-100lbs	179.00-186.00
100-110lbs	n/a
Nannies/Does: 80-130 lbs	105.00-120.00
130-180 lbs	110.00-125.00
Bucks/Billies: 100-150lbs	172.00-187.00
150-250 lbs	204.00-219.00



ADVERTISEMENTS

The Connecticut Week Agricultural Report offers affordable classified advertisements for your farm-related needs. See Page 4 for details and rates, or contact Jane Slupecki at 860-713-2588 or Jane.Slupecki@ct.gov for more information.

FOR SALE

1-R. CT Christmas Tree Growers, CT Sheep Breeders and CT Beekeepers Associations Special Insurance Packages available through Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency--Toll Free 1-800-554-8049, ddonahue01@comcast.net or www.hobbyfarmusa.com. Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

2-R. Farm Insurance for all types of farming at very competitive rates. 1-800-554-8049, ddonahue01@comcast.net or www.hobbyfarmusa.com, Blumenthal/Donahue Insurance Agency. Farm Commercial Auto Coverage now available.

4-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

6-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

130-R. Battery powered price computing scales \$328.00. Cash registers \$280.00. Repair, calibration and rental scales of all types available. 800-403-5919.

156-R. High quality Christmas Trees: Fraser-Canaan-Balsam-Nordman-Concolor-Blue Spruce-Meyer Spruce-Commercial grades available also. Hartikka Tree Farms (800)508-5099 www.treeman2.com

173-R. Fall Discount Sale. Premium dark natural mulch \$16/yd. Great for fall plantings. Also color enhanced mulches \$23/yd. Prices as wholesale only. Picked up East Haddam. We can deliver any volume. Contact Charles Leigus 860-301-0673.

176-R. For Sale: Christmas greens, wreaths, roping, kissing balls, many sizes and varieties. Samples gladly shown. We deliver. 203-457-1344.

181-R. Rye Straw, clean, bright, weed free. Call 203-484-0664.

184-R. 6'6" Fisher Minute Mount snow plow to fit R=Ford Ranger up to 1997. \$1,000.00 firm. Tel. 860-274-8159.

185. Pair BKT Agirmax radial tires 520/85R38 on rims 95% \$2,000.00. 3.25 cu' bagged shavings \$5.00 delivered and stacked. 200 minimum. 860-274-8132.

190-R. Hay for sale: Round bales \$55.00 each P/U. Square bales, second cut, \$5.00 each P/U. Crossbred heifer, club calf, 8 mo. Great 4-H project. \$400.00. 860-537-1974.

191-R. Corn planter. John Deere 24B. Two row with original manual. \$395.00. Durham, 860-349-8267.

192-R. Squash, acorn and butternut. Bulk, by the bin. Also, potato bin loader. 860-644-1454.

193-R. Farmi Winch JL-501 \$4,000.00 firm. Only 1 year old. In great condition. 860-942-9881.

194-R. Rye straw, seedless, green cut. Strawberry & Garlic Grade. \$5.00 per bale. \$4.50 for 50+ bales. Call 860-289-4830 or 860-289-5055.

195. 10 ft. fiberglass orchard ladder, excellent condition. \$200.00. 860-342-0364.

MISCELLANEOUS

7-R. Farm/Land Specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

News and events from local agricultural organizations are published on a first-come, first-served basis as space allows. Submit concise summaries (150 words maximum) to linda.plotrowicz@ct.gov for consideration. There is no guarantee that submissions will be published.

FARM-TO-CHEF ANNUAL MEETING NOV 7

The next annual meeting of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture's Farm-to-Chef (FTC) Program will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Monday, November 7, 2011, at Brownson Country Club in Shelton.

The annual meeting is the program's biggest networking event of the year and is a great way to meet potential business partners, learn from one another, and enjoy some fantastic Connecticut Grown food.

The day will feature presentations, panel discussions with audience participation, and a special "speed dating" exercise designed to help farmers learn more about prospective restaurant and food-service customers. Brownson Executive Chef Wayne Kregling and a team of FTC member chefs will create a delicious lunch using Connecticut Grown ingredients from FTC member farms.

All members and potential members are encouraged to attend.

Registration closes October 18. Get the registration form at http://www.ct.gov/doag/lib/doag/2011-B_FTC_Annual_Meeting_Registration_Form.pdf

PATHFINDER AWARD NOMINATIONS SOUGHT

[Working Lands Alliance](http://www.workinglandsalliance.org) is currently seeking nominations for the 2011 Farmland Preservation Pathfinder Awards. Established in 2003 and administered by Working Lands Alliance, the Farmland Preservation Pathfinder Awards are designed to recognize individuals and groups that have significantly advanced farmland preservation through leadership, advocacy, planning, and education.

Download the 2011 nomination form at <http://www.farmland.org/documents/PathfinderNominationForm2011.pdf>. Nominations are due October 21, 2011.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR NEW U.S. DAIRY SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

Nominations are currently open for the inaugural U.S. Dairy Sustainability Awards. The awards recognize dairy farms and businesses for practices that deliver outstanding economic, environmental and/or social benefit, all helping to advance sustainability of the dairy industry. There are three categories:

1. [The Elanco Award for Outstanding Dairy Farm Sustainability](http://www.elanco.com) recognizes three dairy farm businesses, regardless of farm size, location, or type of operation, for demonstrating outstanding achievement in sustainability.
2. [The U.S. Dairy Export Council Award for Outstanding Dairy Processing & Manufacturing Sustainability](http://www.usdairy.com) recognizes processing and manufacturing businesses for demonstrating outstanding achievement in sustainability.
3. [The Center for Advanced Energy Studies/Idaho National Laboratory Award for Outstanding Achievement in Energy](http://www.energycenter.org) recognizes outstanding achievement in energy conservation and/or renewable energy generation.

Individuals, groups and organizations involved with, or part of, the U.S. dairy industry are encouraged to submit a nomination before December 1, 2011. Download application forms at <http://www.usdairy.com/Sustainability/Awards>. If you need assistance or would like to request a hard copy of the nomination forms, contact InnovationCenter@USDairy.com or call Kristiana Alexander at (847) 627-3723.

USDA SECRETARY VILSACK ISSUES DISASTER DESIGNATION FOR CONNECTIUT

USDA Secretary Vilsack has granted Governor Malloy's September 15, 2011, request for a disaster designation in Connecticut due to agricultural losses caused by Tropical Storm Irene.

Fairfield, Hartford, Litchfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London, and Windham Counties were named primary natural disaster areas. Tolland County was named a contiguous disaster county as a result of its adjacent location to primary disaster counties.

The Secretarial disaster designation allows farm operators in all eight counties to apply for USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) assistance including emergency loans and Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE).

Farms may apply for emergency loans immediately and must have their applications in within eight months of the designation to be considered. Applications for the SURE program will be accepted in 2012 after the 2011 farm revenue data required by statute is available.

Connecticut farmers interested in applying for assistance should contact their local [USDA Farm Service Agency office](#) as soon as possible.

SMALL-SCALE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION GUIDE

The National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service has published a new guide to small-scale livestock production. Livestock is a potentially profitable enterprise for small-scale agricultural operations. Livestock can offer a farm new revenue streams as well as increased fertility and weed control. Benefits and challenges of raising livestock on a small farm are discussed here, including particular considerations related to producing poultry, rabbits, hogs, sheep and goats, bees, and cattle. Resources for further reading are provided.

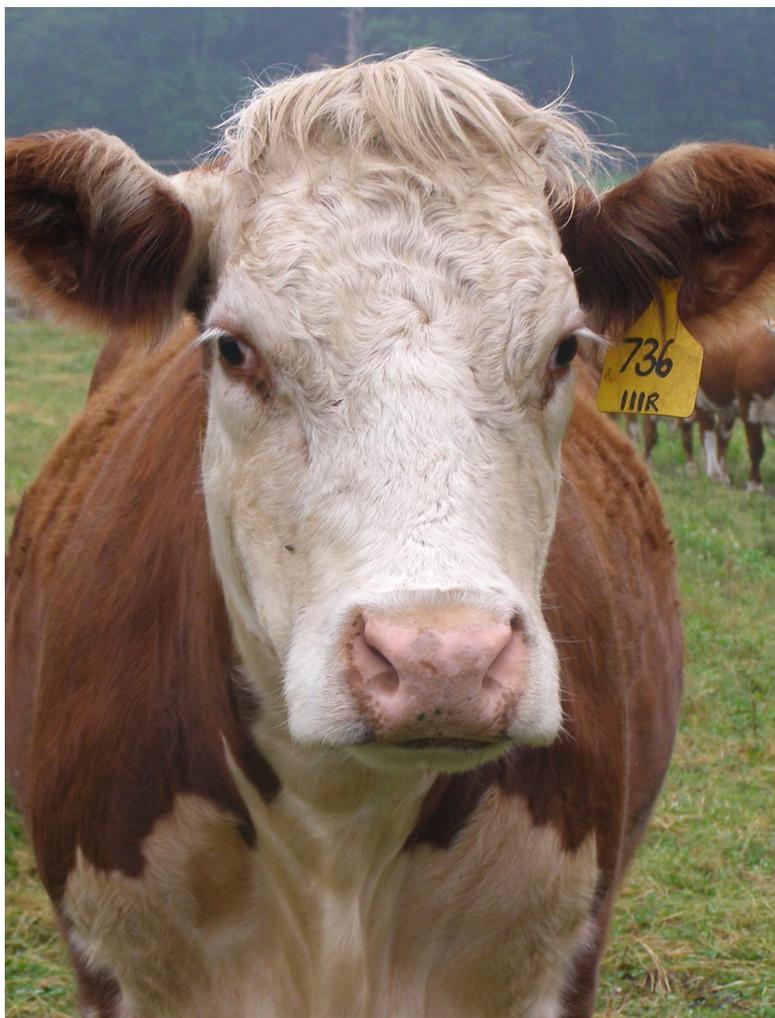
The guide is available as a digital download for \$6.95 or in print for \$9.95. Get more information at <https://attra.ncat.org/attra-pub/summaries/summary.php?pub=371>.

OCTOBER 24 IS FOOD DAY

Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) and Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA) are the honorary co-chairs for Food Day, October 24, 2011.

Food Day seeks to bring together Americans from all walks of life—parents, teachers, and students; health professionals, community organizers, and local officials; chefs, school lunch providers, and eaters of all stripes—to push for healthy, affordable food produced in a sustainable, humane way.

Food Day is sponsored by the Center for Science in the Public Interest. It does not accept funding from government or corporations, but restaurants, supermarkets, other businesses, and the public are encouraged to observe Food Day in their own ways.



Advertising Rates: Fifteen words or less \$3.75 per insertion. For ads of more than 15 words, 25 cents per word per insertion. Initial letters, hyphenated words, phone numbers, and addresses, etc., are counted separately. Print or type copy. Publication on a specific date cannot be guaranteed. Advertisements will be published on a first-come, first-served basis. Ads must be received by noon the Friday before a publication date to be considered for insertion. Only ads of an agricultural nature with a Connecticut phone number will be accepted. Remittance with copy required. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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Regulation & Inspection	Dr. Bruce Sherman 860-713-2504
Farmland Preservation	Joseph Dippel 860-713-2511
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